

Appl. No. 10/796,316
Atty. Docket No. AA557CC
Amdt. dated April 14, 2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS

Please Cancel Claims 1-10 and add the following Claims.

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

- [[1]] 11. (Currently Amended) A multi-chambered tube for containing and dispensing a contents comprised of portions having differing rheology and viscosity characteristics, the tube comprising:
- (a) a body divided by at least one body divider into at least two body chambers, each body chamber housing a portion of the contents, the body being sealed at one end by a crimp seal and one end of each body divider being sealed within the crimp seal, wherein the body divider is made from a substantially rigid material and is substantially non-displaceable in response to application of compressive force to the body; and
 - (b) a shoulder comprised of a shoulder base and a shoulder nozzle, the shoulder base being attached to the body, the shoulder nozzle having a face provided with at least two apertures, at least one aperture in communication with each of the body chambers, and the other end of each body divider disposed within the shoulder and being sealed at the face of the shoulder nozzle; and
 - (c) a cap comprised of a cap body provided with a dispensing orifice and at least one cap divider that separates the cap body into at least two cap chambers, each cap chamber being in communication with one of the body chambers via at least one of the apertures in the face of the shoulder nozzle; and wherein the cap chamber is a damper to regulate flow of the composition being dispensed; and
 - (d) the shoulder nozzle being received within the cap body when the cap and the shoulder are assembled.
- [[2]] 12. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 1, wherein the compositions are physically separated by the body divider and the cap divider until the time of actual use.
- [[3]] 13. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 1, wherein the body divider has a thickness of from about 0.05 mm to about 0.3 mm.

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- [[4]] 14. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 1, wherein the characteristics and number of the apertures in the shoulder nozzle face are determined based upon the viscosity and rheology characteristics of the portions of the contents.
- [[5]] 15. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 1, wherein the contents is a multi-phased dentifrice composition, each phase being housed in a separate body chamber.
- [[6]] 16. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 1, wherein the multi-chambered tube comprises two chambers.
- [[7]] 17. (Currently Amended) The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the shoulder nozzle face is provided with at least one groove into which a portion of each cap divider is received.
- [[8]] 18. (Currently Amended) A cap and shoulder assembly for use with a multi-chambered tube body, wherein:
- (a) the shoulder is comprised of a shoulder base and a shoulder nozzle, the shoulder base being attachable to the tube body, the shoulder nozzle having a face provided with at least as many apertures as there are tube body chambers, at least one aperture being in communication with each of the body chambers; and
 - (b) the cap is comprised of a cap body provided with a dispensing orifice and a cap divider that separates the cap body into as many cap chambers as there are tube body chambers, wherein each cap chamber being in communication with the one body chamber via at least one of the apertures in the face of the shoulder nozzle and wherein the cap chamber serves as a damper to regulate flow of the composition being dispensed; and
 - (c) the shoulder nozzle being received within the cap body when the cap and the shoulder are assembled.
- [[9]] 19. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the shoulder nozzle face is provided with at least one groove into which a portion of each cap divider is received.
- [[10]] 20. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the characteristics and number of apertures in the shoulder nozzle face are determined based on the viscosity

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and rheology characteristics of compositions to be housed in the chambers of the tube body.

[[11]] 21. (Currently Amended) A method for dispensing compositions uniformly from a multi-chambered tube regardless of how the tube is squeezed comprising the steps of:

- (a) filling each chamber of a multi-chambered tube with a composition;
- (a) squeezing the multi-chambered tube divided into at least two tube body chambers by at least one tube body divider which does not substantially displace in response to application of compressive force to the multi-chambered tube; the squeezing of the multi-chambered tube resulting in the compositions flowing from the tube body chambers through at least one aperture in the face of the shoulder nozzle which is in communication with the tube body chamber and which is received within a cap chamber, and then flowing from the aperture in the face of the shoulder nozzle into the cap chamber formed by the cap body divided into the at least two cap chambers by at least one cap divider;
- (c) regulating the flow of the composition by dampening the composition in the cap chamber, and
- (d) keeping the compositions separate with the body divider and the cap divider until the time of actual use.

[[12]] 22. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 11, wherein the body divider has a thickness of from about 0.05 mm to about 0.3 mm.

[[13]] 23. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 11, wherein the characteristics and number of the apertures in the shoulder nozzle face are determined based upon the viscosity and rheology characteristics of the portions of the contents.

[[14]] 24. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 11, wherein the contents is a multi-phased dentifrice composition, each phase being housed in a separate body chamber.

[[15]] 25. (Currently Amended) The tube of Claim 11, wherein the multi-chambered tube comprises two chambers.